

Serial No. 10/680,339
Attorney Docket No. 53951-106

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (original) A processing base unit that interfaces with a fluid-processing cartridge for extracorporeal blood processing, the base unit comprising:
 a heat exchange surface; and
 a cartridge interface configured to interface with the fluid-processing cartridge so that when the fluid-processing cartridge is installed, the cartridge interface (a) actuates the fluid-processing cartridge such that the fluid-processing cartridge processes a fluid and (b) holds the fluid-processing cartridge in a position that keeps the heat exchange surface in thermal contact with the fluid,
 wherein the cartridge interface is configured so that (a) portions of the cartridge interface that drive the fluid-processing cartridge and (b) portions of the cartridge interface that keeps the heat exchange surface in thermal contact with the fluid are both engaged in response to a single operator action.
2. (original) The fluid processing base unit of claim 1, wherein the base unit further comprises a fastening system, and the single operator action comprises the step of engaging the fastening system.
3. (original) The fluid processing base unit of claim 2, wherein fastening system comprises a lever, and the operator engages the fastening system by moving the lever.
4. (original) The fluid processing base unit of claim 1, wherein the single operator action comprises the step of engaging a fastening system.
5. (original) The fluid processing base unit of claim 1, wherein when the fluid-processing cartridge is installed, heat transfer from the heat exchange surface to the fluid is regulated.
- 6-21 (canceled)

Serial No. 10/680,889
Attorney Docket No. 53951-106

22. (new) A processing base unit that interfaces with a fluid-processing cartridge for extracorporeal blood processing, the base unit comprising:
- a blood processing unit with a generally planar interface panel having actuators and sensors configured to engage corresponding elements of the fluid-processing cartridge;
 - a heat generator with a heat transfer surface that is aligned with the interface panel when the base unit is in a closed position;
 - a closing mechanism with a latch that presses the heat generator and the interface panel against the cartridge by means of a single mechanical action of the latch.
23. (new) The base unit of claim 22, wherein the closing mechanism includes a door that forces the cartridge against the heat generator and the interface panel.
24. (new) The base unit of claim 23, wherein the latch engages a pin affixed to the actuator panel and progressively urges the door toward the cartridge, during the mechanical action of the latch. .
25. (new) The base unit of claim 22, wherein the heat transfer surface is generally planar.
26. (new) The base unit of claim 25, wherein the heat transfer surface is generally planar and aligned with the interface panel.
27. (new) The base unit of claim 22, wherein the actuator panel and the heat transfer surface define a slot for receiving the cartridge.
28. (new) A processing base unit that interfaces with a fluid-processing cartridge for extracorporeal blood processing, the base unit comprising:
- a heat exchange surface; and
 - a cartridge interface configured to interface with the fluid-processing cartridge so that when the fluid-processing cartridge is installed, the cartridge interface (a) actuates the fluid-processing

Serial No. 10/680,839
Attorney Docket No. 53951-106

cartridge such that the fluid-processing cartridge processes a fluid and (b) holds the fluid-processing cartridge in a position that keeps the heat exchange surface in thermal contact with the fluid,

an engagement member movable relative to the cartridge interface;

wherein the cartridge interface and movement member are configured so that (a) portions of the cartridge interface that drive the fluid-processing cartridge and (b) portions of the cartridge interface that keeps the heat exchange surface in thermal contact with the fluid are both engaged movement of the engagement member.

29. (new) The fluid processing base unit of claim 28, wherein the base unit further comprises a fastening system, and the single operator action comprises the step of engaging the fastening system.

30. (new) The fluid processing base unit of claim 29, wherein fastening system comprises a lever, and the operator engages the fastening system by moving the lever.

31. (new) The fluid processing base unit of claim 28, wherein the single operator action comprises the step of engaging a fastening system.

32. (new) The fluid processing base unit of claim 28, wherein when the fluid-processing cartridge is installed, heat transfer from the heat exchange surface to the fluid is regulated.

33. (new) The fluid processing base unit of claim 28, wherein the movement member clamps the cartridge against the cartridge interface and the heat exchange surface.